

FISHER ISLAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL (16) MINUTES

MAY 25, 2005

CAFÉ TANGIER

FISHER ISLAND, FLORIDA 33109

Council Members Present

Dr. Sidney J. Stern, Chairperson

Lee Aerenson, Vice Chairperson

Jorge L. Garcia

Robert B. Vole

Council Members Absent

Dr. Larry Phillips

Miami-Dade County Staff Present

Suzanne Salichs, Executive Secretary

Gerry Cafiero, Assistant Director, Port of Miami

David Lane, Administrative Officer, Port of Miami

Others Present

Javier A. Acosta, Resident

Jeff Bensen, Director, Fisher Island Security

Scott Chenvert, Consultant, CDB, Inc.

Catherine Colonese, Project Coordinator, ASRLLC

Amy Kimball-Murley, Consultant, Four Gates

Jesus Leon, Assistant Director, Fisher Island Security

Jim Politis, Fisher Island Marine

Stan Smith, Resident

Roy Woods, Consultant, Great Lakes Dredge & Dock

**CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL
AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairperson Sidney J. Stern called the meeting to order at 6:18 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Suzanne Salichs, Executive Secretary, called the roll. The roll resulted in a quorum.

FISHER ISLAND SECURITY

Mr. Jesus Leon, Assistant Director of Security for Fisher Island, reported that security patrols have increased. They have also trained staff on specifically what to look for and emphasized the importance of identifying underage drivers. Security staff are filing reports and forwarding them to the Rules Committee. Drivers whom are 15 years of age, that have acquired their learners permit, can drive from dusk to dawn and at 16, with a valid Florida Driver License. Mr. Jeff Bensen, Director of Security, mentioned a program

being implemented at Ocean Reef. He has also proposed it to Fisher Island Management with the intent of ultimately making the driver more responsible.

Council Member Robert B. Vole asked if there was a count of the golf carts on the island. Mr. Bensen replied that they did not currently have a count. Council Member Robert B. Vole expressed his concern about the carts not being insured. Mr. Bensen assured that the Fisher Island Management owned carts have insurance and that these vehicles are in good running condition.

Chairperson Sidney J. Stern questioned whether there was a legal requirement for golf carts to be registered and insured on a private island. Executive Secretary Suzanne Salichs said she would research the State of Florida's definition of motor vehicle. There was additional discussion of maintaining records and registration of carts. Chairperson Sidney J. Stern recommended that this matter be further discussed at the next Fisher Island Safety Committee meeting. It was agreed that Council Member Robert B. Vole will act as the CC16 liaison on this committee.

Mr. Leon said he had obtained crime data from last year. There were fourteen MDPD responses, 3 of which were residential issues. The rest occurred in the hotel. Council Member Robert B. Vole asked about the overall safety and security of the island. Mr. Bensen expressed that Fisher Island has always been a safe island and reiterated that the Security Office has updated the training program and they have an active Safety Committee. He explained that the assistance of the residents in maintaining safety is important. He also explained that six of the island associations have hired additional security officers to guard garages. The cost is \$20 an hour for a 40 hour work week. Chairperson Sidney J. Stern expressed a concern if these officers are extra, or if they are being taken from somewhere else. Mr. Bensen explained that these officers are in addition to the existing officers already assigned.

SEAPORT REPORT

Mr. Gerry Cafiero, Assistant Director of the Port of Miami, introduced himself and the other Port of Miami consultants present. They provided a PowerPoint presentation that explained the dredging process. Ms. Amy Kimball-Murley, of Four Gates, a consultant for the Port of Miami, made a presentation explaining the importance of the Dredging Project. She will provide an electronic and hard copy of the presentation if requested. Chairperson Sidney J. Stern emphasized that all present understand how important the Port of Miami is, however, his concern was whether there will be any negative impacts to Fisher Island residents caused by the project. Ms. Kimball-Murley explained that the consultants and Port of Miami staff will be working closely with the Fisher Island security officers and others prior to the commencement of dredging.

Mr. Ron Woods, a consultant with Great Lakes Dredge & Dock, explained the dredging areas, schedule and monitoring. Mr. Woods reiterated that they do not anticipate that any damages will occur to structures on Fisher Island as a result of the blasting. He also explained that all blasting will be done during daylight hours. Council Member Jorge L.

Garcia expressed his concern that the blasting would have an affect on the surrounding ecosystem, specifically sea mammals. Mr. Woods explained that there will be ongoing monitoring and quality control to ensure minimal damage. Mr. Woods also mentioned that they will be using helicopters and working closely with DERM to ensure that there is no blasting in the any area where mammal life is spotted. There will also be observers on boats in the channel.

Council Member Jorge L. Garcia asked who would be accountable for any unexpected damage to property on Fisher Island. According to Mr. Cafiero, the Corp. of Engineers was identified as the project managers and would therefore be responsible, if such a situation would arise. Mr. Cafiero also mentioned that two public workshops were held to discuss this project, answer any questions and allow residents to voice any concerns. Mr. Cafiero offered to bring the Corp. of Engineers to a special meeting on Fisher Island. Chairperson Sidney J. Stern asked the Executive Secretary to coordinate this meeting with Mr. Cafiero. In addition, Chairperson Sidney J. Stern asked Fisher Island representatives to notify the Community Council and Fisher Island residents about important meetings of this nature. Chairperson Sidney J. Stern also stated that he appreciated the Port of Miami and the consultants attending this meeting to provide this valuable information.

Mr. Scott Chenevert of CDB, Inc., a consultant for this project, discussed the monitoring stations. He said he will be returning to the island and working with Fisher Island security to determine the best stations on the island. Other concerns arose regarding blasting materials and procedures. Mr. Woods explained that there are specific regulations about blasting. Chairperson Sidney J. Stern said that proper monitoring will give residents a comfort level. Mr. Cafiero will contact the Corp. of Engineers after test blasting is done and have them provide the results to Community Council 16. Chairperson Sidney J. Stern asked Catherine Colonese, of ASRLLC, to get a status report of the damage that was done as a result of the last blasting activity. Mr. Cafiero mentioned that on June 8, there will be a meeting with various agencies to discuss the project.

Chairperson Sidney J. Stern asked Executive Secretary Suzanne Salichs to set up a special meeting on Tuesday, June 28, 6:00 P.M., to discuss the Port of Miami project. Ms. Salichs will check with Council Member Larry Phillips to confirm his availability.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL AND MAY 2005

The minutes of the April 5, 2005 meeting were moved by Vice Chair Lee Aerenson, seconded by Council Member Robert B. Vole. The minutes were approved unanimously.

The minutes of the May 4, 2005 meeting were discussed and moved by Vice Chair Lee Aerenson and seconded by Council Member Robert B. Vole. The minutes were approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairperson Sidney J. Stern spoke of the importance of having a representative of the developer present at all meetings.

Resident Javier Acosta mentioned that an electrical box was placed by the tanks. Mr. Bensen responded that it is an electrical switch. The tanks were then discussed. Council Member Jorge L. Garcia asked if the tanks could be painted green. Mr. Bensen also mentioned that they will soon be replacing the landscaping that had been removed.

Chairperson Sidney J. Stern mentioned that there are vacancies on Community Council 16 that need to be filled. Residents need to be informed, and he asked those present to provide resumes of individuals who would like to participate.

ADJOURMENT

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Salichs, Executive Secretary